

Prevention and Population Research Committee: Supplementary Terms of Reference

This document sets out the key responsibilities that the Scientific Executive Board (SEB) has delegated to the Prevention and Population Research Committee. It should be read in conjunction with [the General Terms of Reference for Funding Committees](#).

1. Intent of Committee

- 1.1. The Prevention and Population Research Committee is responsible for the strategic development, funding and review, oversight and evaluation of Cancer Research UK's portfolio in prevention and population science in accordance with Cancer Research UK's research strategy. This includes research that aims to understand the epidemiology of cancer, population-level risk stratification and screening, and preventative interventions.

2. List of award types

- 2.1. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will consider applications for funding through the following award types:
 - Prevention and Population Research Programme Awards
 - Prevention and Population Research Project Awards
- 2.2. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will also review relevant research groups at the Cancer Research UK Beatson, Cambridge and Manchester Institutes, as agreed between the Head of Prevention and Early Detection Research, the Head of Centres and Institutes and the Cancer Research UK Chief Scientist.

3. Additional terms

- 3.1. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will be supported by Expert Review Panels, comprising standing and *ad hoc* members. These will be chaired by a member of the Prevention and Population Research Committee and supported by up to two additional Committee members where possible.
- 3.2. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will also be supported by the Joint Early Detection and Prevention and Population Patient and Public Involvement panel comprising of patient and public representatives. This will be co-chaired by two members of the Prevention and Population Research Committee and Early Diagnosis and Detection Research Committee.
- 3.3. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will keep abreast of and, where relevant, respond to external factors such as government policies which impact on Cancer Research UK's prevention and population sciences research portfolio.

- 3.4. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will work with other funding committees to ensure training, workforce and infrastructure requirements for population and prevention research are suitably prioritised and supported across Cancer Research UK.

4. Membership

- 4.1. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will comply with the membership requirements set out in the General Terms of Reference for Funding Committees.
- 4.2. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will have a fixed membership; however, additional experts can be co-opted onto the Committee where required, at the discretion of the Committee Chair and the Cancer Research UK office.
- 4.3. The Chair of the Prevention and Population Research Committee will be invited to join the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB).

5. Meetings

- 5.1. The Prevention and Population Research Committee will meet twice per year.
- 5.2. The Chair of the Prevention and Population Research Committee will provide an update at an SEB meeting on an annual basis to discuss how the Committee is delivering against the strategic priorities of Cancer Research UK; update on portfolio shifts; and discuss new strategic opportunities and/or any challenges relating to the development of prevention and population research.

6. Research remit

- 6.1. The intent of applications for funding considered by the Prevention and Population Research Committee must relate to one or more of the following areas of research:
- Population-based studies, including classical epidemiological approaches to understand the distribution and determinants of disease in populations, and clinical epidemiological approaches, which may include molecular epidemiological components, to help understand risk and disease aetiology, and to test and validate strategies to improve the prevention and control of disease in patients and the public.
 - Translational research seeking to harness mechanistic, biological insights in order to: develop novel cancer prevention targets, agents and strategies; apply understanding of cancer risk/aetiology to ameliorate risk or better target preventive strategies; work towards precision prevention (through pharmacological, immunological, behavioural or other means). This includes areas of priority highlighted in CRUK's prevention research strategy, including

application of immunology, infection, metabolism, ageing and accumulation of somatic mutations.

- Incidence rates of cancer, including changes over time and geographies. Investigation into the changes in cancer survival, driven by risk factors or other relevant factors.
- Methodological and statistical research relating to prevention and population sciences.
- Population-level epidemiological studies of secondary physical effects of cancer treatment.
- Screening as a form of prevention, including population-level trials of screening approaches.
- Risk stratification and associated prevention studies, including identification of high-risk groups for whom preventative interventions would be beneficial and in which preventative intervention research could be conducted.
- Exploratory and confirmatory clinical trials seeking to test the efficacy and safety of preventive agents and strategies (including pharmacologic, immunologic, and behavioural).
- Behavioural and lifestyle interventions to support early detection/diagnosis or prevention of cancer, including cancer recurrence, across a range of risk factors, which may include tobacco, alcohol, physical activity, sedentary behaviour, obesity and UV exposure (individual or population level).
- Policy-focused research to help develop Cancer Research UK's policies and advocacy strategies concerning cancer prevention, including policy research on tobacco control.